

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Original)** A head support device comprising:

a read and/or write head for recording information on a recording medium and/or reproducing the information from the recording medium, the recording medium rotating around an axis of rotation of the recording medium;

a slider mounted with the head;

a support arm rotatable around a first axis, the first axis being parallel to the axis of rotation of the recording medium and located away from the axis of rotation of the recording medium;

a flexure for disposing the slider at a first end of the support arm;

a spring member for applying a specified thrust force to the head in a read position and/or a write position, the spring member having lower rigidity than the support arm; and

a base arm rotatable around the first axis together with the support arm, the base arm being rotated by driving means and coupled to the support arm by the spring member,

wherein the support arm supports the slider at the first end thereof and is pivotable around a second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis and goes through a pivot fulcrum where the base arm and the support arm contact each other, and

wherein the flexure is fixed to the support arm in the vicinity of the pivot fulcrum.

2. **(Original)** The head support device of claim 1, wherein the flexure is fixed to the support arm in the vicinity of the pivot fulcrum and between a midpoint of a distance from the first end of the support arm to the pivot fulcrum and a midpoint of a distance from a second end of the support arm to the pivot fulcrum.

3. **(Original)** The head support device of claim 1, wherein:

the support arm supports the slider at the first end thereof, includes a slit formed about a second end thereof and is pivotable around the second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis and goes through the pivot fulcrum where the base arm and the support arm contact each other; and

the flexure passes through the slit to be disposed on the support arm and the base arm.

4. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 1-~~or 3~~, wherein the spring member includes a hole and a slit part.

5. **(Original)** The head support device of claim 4, wherein the hole connects with the slit part.

6. **(Original)** The head support device of claim 4, wherein the hole is provided in a center of the spring member.

7. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or 5~~, wherein the hole is symmetric with respect to a centerline of the support arm.

8. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or 5~~, wherein the hole is shaped into one of a circle, an ellipse and a polygon.

9. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or 5~~, wherein the hole is shaped into a rhombus.

10. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or 5~~, wherein the slit of the support arm and the slit part of the spring member coincide with each other along a centerline of the support arm at a junction between the support arm and the spring member.

11. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or~~⁵, wherein the spring member is formed integrally with the support arm.

12. **(Original)** The head support device of claim 3, wherein first, the flexure is fixed to the support arm in the vicinity of the pivot fulcrum, next, a part of the flexure that extends to a terminal is passed through the slit of the support arm to a side of the support arm that faces the base arm, and then a reinforcing plate for strengthening the support arm is fixed to a side of the support arm that is provided with the slider.

13. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 1-~~or~~³, wherein:
the support arm includes a balancer for balancing the thrust force of the spring member about a bearing; and

a resultant center of gravity of respective centers of gravity of the flexure provided with the slider, a pivot section of the support arm and the balancer acts in a direction passing through the second axis, which connects respective vertexes of the pivot fulcrums, toward the recording medium.

14. **(Currently amended)** The head support device of claim 4-~~or~~⁵, wherein the slit part is symmetric with respect to a centerline of the support arm.

15. **(Original)** A disk drive comprising:
a recording medium;
rotation driving means for rotating the recording medium;
a read and/or write head for recording information on the recording medium rotating around an axis of rotation and reproducing the information from the recording medium;
a slider mounted with the head;

a support arm rotatable around a first axis, the first axis being parallel to the axis of rotation of the recording medium and located away from the axis of rotation of the recording medium;

a flexure for disposing the slider at a first end of the support arm;

a spring member for applying a specified thrust force to the head in a read position and/or a write position, the spring member having lower rigidity than the support arm; and

a base arm rotatable around the first axis together with the support arm, the base arm being rotated by driving means and coupled to the support arm by the spring member,

wherein the support arm supports the slider at the first end thereof and is pivotable around a second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis and goes through a pivot fulcrum where the base arm and the support arm contact each other, and

wherein the flexure is fixed to the support arm in the vicinity of the pivot fulcrum.

16. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein:

the support arm supports the slider at the first end thereof, includes a slit formed about a second end thereof and is pivotable around the second axis which is perpendicular to the first axis and goes through the pivot fulcrum where the base arm and the support arm contact each other; and

the flexure passes through the slit to be disposed on the support arm and the base arm.

17. **(Currently amended)** The disk drive of claim 15-~~or 16~~, wherein the spring member includes a hole and a slit part.

18. **(New)** The head support device of claim 3, wherein the spring member includes a hole and a slit part.

19. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the hole is symmetric with respect to a centerline of the support arm.
20. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the hole is shaped into one of a circle, an ellipse and a polygon.
21. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the hole is shaped into a rhombus.
22. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the slit of the support arm and the slit part of the spring member coincide with each other along a centerline of the support arm at a junction between the support arm and the spring member.
23. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the spring member is formed integrally with the support arm.
24. **(New)** The head support device of claim 3, wherein:
the support arm includes a balancer for balancing the thrust force of the spring member about a bearing; and
a resultant center of gravity of respective centers of gravity of the flexure provided with the slider, a pivot section of the support arm and the balancer acts in a direction passing through the second axis, which connects respective vertexes of the pivot fulcrums, toward the recording medium.
25. **(New)** The head support device of claim 5, wherein the slit part is symmetric with respect to a centerline of the support arm.

26. **(New)** The disk drive of claim 16, wherein the spring member includes a hole and a slit part.